

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title: Pronghorn Antelope Habitat Improvement – Fence Modification GMU 13B - 2007	Project No.
Region/GMU: Region II/GMU 13B	HPC: Fredonia
Project Type: Habitat Improvement – Fence Modification	
Project Description: This project will augment and build on the efforts initiated under a 2005 State Wildlife Grant and a 2006 HPC Grant: This 2007 grant is requesting funding to continue prioritized modification of fences in GMU 13B that do not meet fencing standards for pronghorn antelope. Modifications include replacing bottom wire with smooth wire, tightening fence stays, getting correct spacing of wires in the fences, and reducing strands to 3 or 4 where needed. Priorities have been identified through the completed fence inventory in the unit. Because of the scope of this project, it is anticipated that this grant will be submitted yearly. Current funding request is for 2007-2008. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modify 10-12 miles of fence in pronghorn antelope habitat that currently do not meet wildlife passability standards in GMU 13B. 2. Remove fences that are shown to serve no obvious purpose. 3. Improve pronghorn antelope habitat by ensuring unrestricted, safe access to water, fawning areas, and unoccupied or underutilized pronghorn habitat in GMU 13B. Begin Fence modification/removal by end of fiscal year 2007-2008. Wildlife Species to Benefit: Pronghorn Antelope 100 %	
Possible Funding Partners: AAF	
Implementation Schedule: Beginning: Fall 2007 Completed: Fall 2008	
PROJECT FUNDING	
SBG Funds Requested: \$ 33000.00 Cost Share Funds: \$ ----- Total Project Costs: \$ 33000.00	
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION	
Applicant: Luke F. Thompson Telephone: 435-574-2978	Address: 3500 S Lake Mary Road Flagstaff, AZ 86001
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
Coordinated with: Micheal Herder Biologist BLM – Arizona Strip Field Office	
Applicant's signature: Luke Thompson	Date: February 15, 2007

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

Game Branch
2221 W. Greenway Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85023
mdisney@azgfd.gov

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS: Fence structure and abundance, and the impacts on pronghorn movement and breeding success have been identified as issues affecting pronghorn movement, population expansion and utilization of potentially available habitat in GMU 13B. Without modification of fences that impede pronghorn movement; create pronghorn “traps”; and restrict access to pastures with water and high quality fawning cover, the pronghorn population in GMU 13B will continue to have limited expansion.

Since 2002, fence modification and inventory projects in 13B have been an ongoing effort. The initial fence inventory completed in 2002 showed 723 miles of fences in 13A and 13B that did not meet wildlife standards specific for pronghorn. This fence inventory has recently been completed in 13B. Data is very preliminary but indicates many more miles of fence that do not meet wildlife standards.

In the spring of 2007, 10-12 miles of fence modifications will be completed with funding received from a 2006 HPC grant. In 2005, 10 miles of fences were modified in 13B based on priorities from the fence inventory. When the most recent project will be completed, ~22 miles of fence will have been modified for Pronghorn Antelope.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES: Objectives for this project include:

1. Modify 10-12 miles of fence in pronghorn antelope habitat that currently do not meet wildlife passability standards in GMU 13B.
2. Remove fences that are shown to serve no obvious purpose.
3. Improve pronghorn antelope habitat by ensuring unrestricted, safe access to water, fawning areas, and unoccupied or underutilized pronghorn habitat in GMU 13B.

Begin Fence modification/removal by end of fiscal year 2007-2008.

PROJECT STRATEGIES: Below are the project strategies:

1. Fence modification will be based on data obtained in the fence inventory project recently completed in GMU 13B. Modification will be prioritized based on fence locations in relation to habitat quality, historic fawning areas, water distribution and underused habitat.
2. Approved funding will be allocated to purchase necessary fence materials and approved contract labor and/or seasonal AGFD and BLM personnel. 12 miles of fence is projected to be completed.
3. Fence modifications will be implemented in 2007-08 based on modification need. Examples of fence modification will include replacement of barded bottom wire with smooth wire, reduction in total strands of wire from 5 to 4 or 3, modifying bottom wire to meet 16”-18” standard and complete fence removal where identified.

PROJECT LOCATION: Upper and Lower Hurricane Valleys, and Mainstreet Valley in GMU 13B

LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner’s name): Project will occur on lands administered by the BLM – Arizona Strip Field Office.

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT? N/A

HABITAT DESCRIPTION: Habitat consists of a great-plains grassland giving way to a sagebrush-steppe community at higher elevations. Common grass species include galleta grass, dropseed, and Indian Rice grass. Forb species that are common are winterfat, globe mallow, and several species of buckwheat. Shrub species include big sage, cliffrose, and ephedra. The average elevation of the area is 5,000 feet ASL.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

ESTIMATED PROJECT COST SHEET
Pronghorn Antelope Habitat Improvement – Fence Modification GMU 13B - 2007

Costs Category-Equipment, Labor, Administrative, Material	Grant Dollars Requested – Special Tag
Contract Labor ~ \$2050.00/mile	\$24600.00
Associated fence hardware including 12 miles of rolled 12 gauge smooth fencing wire, 10 bundles of metal fence stays, 4 rolls 14 ga galvanized bailing wire, staples for fence posts, etc.	\$6000.00
Contingency (Rising Steel Prices, etc.) 7.5%	\$2400.00
Totals	\$33000.00

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Hopkins Fence – Contract Labor and Materials

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

- Completion Report by Luke Thompson – Wildlife Manager
- Database showing miles of unacceptable fence modified, unacceptable fence remaining and miles of acceptable fence.
- Database showing all fence locations using GPS coordinates.
- As fences get modified, database will allow tracking, and will indicate completed tasks.
- Pronghorn Antelope surveys will continue in the unit, and the data will be reported yearly as part of the hunt recommendation process. Increases, decrease, or improvements in population numbers, distribution and fawning success will be documented during these surveys. This data will be compared to fence modification data to determine if project objectives have been met.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE: Future maintenance needs, if needed, will be addressed by the AGFD in cooperation with the BLM – Arizona Strip Field Office. It is anticipated that future maintenance will be very low.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY: Luke Thompson – Wildlife Manager

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet): N/A

TREE SHEARING (AGRA-AXE, PUSH) PROJECTS (see attached worksheet): N/A